



## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

Mail Code 5401G

OFFICE OF  
SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY  
RESPONSE

### **MEMORANDUM**

SUBJECT: Availability of "Automatic Tank Gauging Systems For Release Detection: Reference Manual For UST Inspectors"

FROM: Cliff Rothenstein, Director  
Office of Underground Storage Tanks

TO: UST/LUST Regional Program Managers  
State UST/LUST/Fund Managers

On the reverse side of this memorandum you will find a New Product News describing a new compliance assistance tool, "Automatic Tank Gauging Systems For Release Detection: Reference Manual For Underground Storage Tank Inspectors" (EPA 510-B-00-009, August 2000). Inspectors, owners, and operators of underground storage tanks (USTs) will find this manual helpful in their combined efforts to ensure that USTs meet federal release detection requirements.

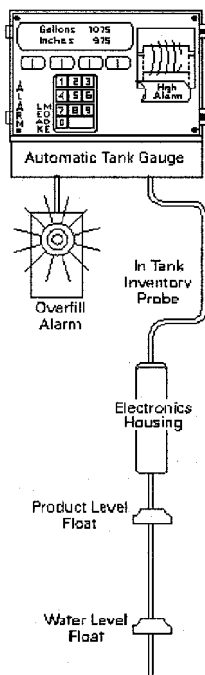
I know you are aware of our ongoing compliance and enforcement initiative. A crucial part of compliance efforts is to facilitate efficient UST inspections. This new manual provides ready information *in the field* on automatic tank gauging (ATG) systems, a frequently used release detection method. Inspectors can quickly look up information that will help them conduct an effective inspection. In addition, inspectors can leave material copied from the manual with UST owners and operators that will help them properly operate and maintain their release detection over time. As often noted, inspections provide an ideal opportunity to educate UST owners and operators about the proper operation and maintenance of their UST equipment.

I hope your UST inspectors find the manual useful in their field inspections. I also want to urge you to consider how you can use this document—either as it is or tailored to meet your specific needs—to reach your customers and help change their behavior. Please note the contact information on the reverse side if you have any questions on the use or reproduction of this booklet.

I look forward to hearing your comments on our compliance assistance activities and how we may continue to work together to meet our program goals.

cc: UST/LUST Regional Program Managers' Supervisors  
OUST Desk Officers

# New Product News



## ***Automatic Tank Gauging Systems For Release Detection: Reference Manual For Underground Storage Tank Inspectors***

EPA 510-B-00-009 (August 2000)

### **Who will find this compliance assistance tool useful?**

This manual can help State and EPA inspectors of underground storage tanks (USTs) evaluate how well UST owners and operators are using their automatic tank gauging (ATG) systems to comply with release detection requirements. Also, the manual provides handouts that UST inspectors can distribute to UST owners and operators to help them understand the proper operation and maintenance of their ATG systems.

### **What is in this compliance assistance tool?**

This 140-page manual contains a summary of specifications, based on third-party evaluations, for ATG systems that detect leaks from USTs and their piping. Each summary provides information on certified detectable leak rate/threshold, test period duration, product applicability, calibration requirements, restrictions on the use of the device, vendor contact information, printing and interpreting reports, sample reports, and so on.

### **Using the ATG Manual to raise compliance levels:**

UST regulators and inspectors using the ***ATG Manual*** should find site inspections take less time and are more complete, aided by this handy reference manual. Also, the relevant information from the ***ATG Manual*** left with UST owners and operators should increase their ability to comply with requirements. The manual can be adapted and tailored by States or industry to match precisely their specific requirements. If you need help in adapting the manual, we'll be glad to assist (see the contact information below).

### **Internet access to the ATG Manual:**

The most recent edition of the ***Manual*** is always available in electronic form for free viewing, printing, and downloading via the World Wide Web at [www.epa.gov/swerust1/pubs/index.htm#automatic](http://www.epa.gov/swerust1/pubs/index.htm#automatic).

### **Printed copies have been sent to the following:**

EPA's Office of Underground Storage Tanks has sent copies of this ***Manual*** to EPA Regional UST Programs, State UST Programs, each vendor noted in the ***Manual***, and several trade groups.

### **Need additional information?**

If you have questions about the availability of this document or adapting it, contact Jay Evans by e-mail at [evans.jay@epa.gov](mailto:evans.jay@epa.gov), or phone at 703-603-7149. If you have questions about the content of the document, please contact Tim Smith by e-mail at [smith.timr@epa.gov](mailto:smith.timr@epa.gov), or by phone at 703-603-7158.

**NOTE:** The information contained in the manual comes from the ***List Of Leak Detection Evaluations*** which is maintained by a work group consisting of State and EPA members. Neither the ***List*** or the ***ATG Manual*** provides a list of "approved" leak detection systems. Approval or acceptance of leak detection systems is the responsibility of the implementing agency—in most cases the State environmental agency.